

# Bruna Seixas-Lima - MA, PhD

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## CONTACT

### INFORMATION

Phone: 647- 625-1760  
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6 Park Vista unit 801. M4B 1A2  
Toronto, ON - Canada

## INTERESTS

Linguistics, Neurolinguistics, Neurosciences, Neuropsychology, Aphasiology, Aging, Dementia, Brain-imaging, Artificial Intelligence.

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Over ten years of experience in academic research;
- Over 15 years of experience in teaching ;
- Self-starting and goal-oriented;
- Strong leadership skills;
- Excellent time management.

## EDUCATION

**Post-doctoral fellow under the supervision of Dr. Howard Chertkow**  
Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2021 – present

**PhD - Rehabilitation Sciences Institute - Speech-Language Pathology program under the supervision of Dr. Elizabeth Rochon**  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada 2014 – 2020

**MA in Linguistics under the supervision of Dr. Marcos Lopes**  
**Double major bachelor degree in Linguistics and Portuguese University of Sao Paulo,**  
Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil 2008 – 2010

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** Fluent in English and Portuguese, intermediate skills in Spanish, beginner skills in French  
**Coding:** R, LaTeX, SPSS, Python, MATLAB

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Guest lecturer: Adult Language and Speech Disorders – Right-Hemisphere Disorders**  
2020-2022  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada.

**Guest lecturer: Aphasia – Discourse and Right-Hemisphere Disorders,** 2016-2022  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada.

**Guest lecturer: Neurocognitive Communication – Intervention in Dementia** 2018  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada.

**Guest lecturer: Adult Language and Speech Disorders – Neurolinguistic models** 2018  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada.

**Guest lecturer: Cognitive Neuroscience of Language – Language Disorders,** 2017, 2018  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada.

**Academic advisor: Research Initiation Program** 2017 – 2019  
ABC Federal University Sao Bernardo do Campo, SP. Brazil.

- Provided students with training on methods of research, and aided students in writing research reports.

**Teaching assistant in Introduction to Perception** 2019  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada

**Teaching assistant in Aphasia** 2019  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada

**Teaching assistant in Cognitive Neuroscience of Language** 2017, 2018  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada

**Teaching assistant in Neurocognitive Communication** 2016, 2017, 2018  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada

**Teaching assistant in Research in Speech-Language Pathology** 2016  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada

**Teaching assistant in Pragmatics** 2009  
University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil

- Preparation of course material;
- Correspondence with students and delivery of office hours;
- Support during lectures;
- Exam invigilation;
- Grading.

RESEARCH  
COORDINATION  
EXPERIENCE

**Project Coordinator**  
Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest - Clinical Trials Unit - Dr. Howard Chertkow's Lab 2019 – present  
Toronto, ON. Canada.

- Neuropsychological and clinical assessments
- Recruitment of research participants
- Data management and psychometrics
- Development of study documents including informed consent and case report forms

**Research Assistant**  
Speech-Language Pathology Dept - Language Sciences Lab - University of Toronto 2012 – 2016  
Toronto, ON. Canada.

- Data management, coding and analyses;
- Statistical analyses;
- Preparation of conference abstracts, manuscripts, grants and ethics applications;
- Literature reviews.

PUBLICATIONS

*Peer-reviewed*

- Seixas-Lima, B, Binns, M, Black, SE, Freedman, M, Kumar, S, Lahiri, D, Roncero, T, Strother, S, Tang-Wai, D, Tartaglia, MC, Chertkow, H, and the TDRA Clinical Research Database

- Group. (Submitted) Relationships between neuropsychiatric symptoms and cognitive profiles in Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. *International Psychogeriatrics*.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy, K., Troyer, A., Levine, B., Graham, N. L., Leonard, C., Tang-Wai, D., Black, S., and Rochon, E. (2020). Language and memory: An investigation of the relationship between autobiographical memory recall and narrative production of semantic and episodic information. *Aphasiology*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02687038.2020.1843593>
  - Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy K, Troyer A, Levine B, Graham N, Leonard C, Tang Wai D, Black SE and Rochon E (2020) Episodic memory decline is associated with deficits in coherence of discourse. *Cognitive Neuropsychology*, DOI:10.1080/02643294.2020.1770207.
  - Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Levine, B, Black, SE, Tang Wai, DF, Rochon, E (2020) Impaired coherence for semantic but not episodic autobiographical memory in semantic variant primary progressive aphasia. *Cortex*, 123, 72-85.<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cortex.2019.10.008>.
  - Jokel, R, Seixas-Lima, B, Fernandez A, Murphy, K (2019) Language in amnesic mild cognitive impairment and dementia of Alzheimer’s Type: Quantitatively or qualitatively different? *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000496824>.
  - Cupit, J, Leonard, C, Graham, NL, Seixas-Lima, B, Tang-Wai, D, Black, S, Rochon, E (2016). Analyzing syntactic productions in semantic variant PPA and non-fluent variant PPA. How different are they? *Aphasiology*31(3), 282-307. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02687038.2016.1180661>.
  - Rochon, E, Simic, T, Seixas-Lima, B (2016) Overview of current approaches for treating word retrieval deficits demonstrates need for focused research questions and appraisal of the methodological quality of evidence. *Evidence-Based Communication Assessment and Intervention*, 10:2, 79-83. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17489539.2016.1204771>.
  - Seixas-Lima, B (2011) Afasia e linguagem figurada: o acesso lexical dentro de contextos metafóricos. *Biblioteca Digital da Universidade de São Paulo*. DOI: 10.11606/D.8.2011.tde-15062011-090428.

#### Abstracts

- Seixas-Lima B, Levine B, Graham N, Leonard C, Tang-Wai D, Black SE and Rochon E (2018). Language and memory features of autobiographical narratives of svPPA patients. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* Conference Abstract: Academy of Aphasia 56th Annual Meeting. doi: 10.3389/conf.fnhum.2018.228.00070.
- Seixas-Lima B, Murphy K, Troyer A, Levine B, Graham N, Leonard C, Tang-Wai D, Black SE and Rochon E (2017) Episodic versus semantic memory impairments and deficits in discourse production. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* Conference Abstract: Academy of Aphasia 55th Annual Meeting. DOI: 10.3389/conf.fnhum.2017.223.00123
- Jokel, R, Murphy, K, Seixas Lima, B (2017) Language in amnesic mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer’s disease. *Alzheimer’s and Dementia*. 13(7):P821. July, 2017. DOI: 10.1016/j.jalz.2017.06.1129
- Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Levine, B, Black, SE, Tang-Wai, D, Freedman, M, and Rochon, E (2016) The effect of semantic memory deficits on global coherence: An analysis of the discourse of patients with the semantic variant of primary progressive aphasia. *Front. Psychol.* Conference Abstract: 54th Annual Academy of Aphasia 54th Meeting. DOI: 10.3389/conf.fpsyg.2016.68.00073
- Cupit J, Leonard C, Graham N, Seixas-Lima B, Tang-Wai D, Black S and Rochon E (2015) Investigating the possibility of a syntactic impairment in the semantic variant of PPA using a constrained production task: Preliminary findings. *Front. Psychol.* Conference Abstract: Academy of Aphasia 53rd Annual Meeting. doi: 10.3389/conf.fpsyg.2015.65.00030

#### Non-scientific publications

- Seixas-Lima, B (2018) A pandemic crisis demands aggressive investment in comprehensive research: current efforts to tackle dementia in Canada. *rehabINK*.
- Swarbrick, D, Seixas-Lima, B (2018) Unconquered: A parasport story. With special focus on the Invictus Games. *rehabINK*.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Dubois, D (2017) Exploring memories with Dr. Morris Moscovitch. *rehabINK*.
- Seixas-Lima, B (2016) Memory, Language and the Theory of Mind. *rehabINK*.

*Published in Conference Proceedings*

- Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy, K, Troyer, A, Levine, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Rochon, E (2019) Episodic memory impairments associated with deficits in coherence of narrative production. 2019 Rotman Research Institute Conference.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy, K, Troyer, A, Levine, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Rochon, E (2018) Discourse coherence analysis provides new insights into cognitive decline in aMCI. TRI Research Day, January 23rd, 2018. Toronto, Canada.
- Lopes, M, Mansur, L, Panseri, O, Oliveira, L, Seixas-Lima, B (2006) Deficiências semânticas ligadas à anomia produzida por TCE: um estudo de caso. In: 54º Seminário do Grupo de Estudos Linguísticos do Estado de São Paulo, 2006, Araraquara, SP. Caderno de resumos, 2006. v. 1. p. 209-209

INVITED  
PRESENTATIONS  
AND CONFERENCES

- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2022) Doenças Degenerativas e Linguagem (Degenerative Diseases and Language). Presentation delivered to the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. March 16th, 2022.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2021) Doenças Neurodegenerativas e Relações entre Memória e Discurso (Neurodegenerative Diseases and Relationships between Memory and Discourse). Presentation delivered to the LabLinc (Laboratory of Linguistics and Cognition Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. February 24th, 2021.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2018) The relationship between memory and discourse in patients with primary progressive aphasia and mild cognitive impairment. Presentation delivered to the Institute of Life Course and Aging, University of Toronto, Canada. November 8th, 2018.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2017) Autobiographical memory and coherence of discourse. Presentation delivered to Hospital das Clinicas, August, 23rd, 2017; and Universidade Federal do ABC, August 24th, 2017. Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2015) The effect of semantic memory impairment on the speech of svPPA patients: A discourse-level analysis. Presentation delivered at the Speech-Language Pathology Program Research Colloquia. Toronto, Canada.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2015) The loss of meaning in semantic dementia discourse. Presentation delivered at the Speech-Language Pathology Program Research Colloquia. Toronto, Canada.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2009) A Linguagem Não-Literal Ligada à Afasia (Non-literal Language and Aphasia). Presentation given at Abralín, Associação Brasileira de Linguística (Brazilian Association of Linguistics), Paraíba, Brazil.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2009) Agramatismo: o apagamento de traços e a voz passiva. (Agrammatism: Deletion of Traces and Passive Voice). XII ENAPOL (Linguistics Post-Graduation Student's Meeting). University of São Paulo, Brazil.
- Seixas-Lima, Bruna (2009) Analogias e Metáforas: Aquisição e Perda. (Analogies and Metaphors: Acquisition and Loss). 57th GEL - Grupo de Estudos Linguísticos (Linguistic Studies Group), Ribeirão Preto, Brazil.

CONFERENCE  
POSTER  
PRESENTATIONS

- Seixas-Lima, B., Freedman, M., Binns, M., Tang-Wai, D., Black, S., Leach, L., Tartaglia, C., Stokes, K., Goldberg, Y., Chertkow, H. (2022). Identifying subtypes of dementia and MCI: An analysis of cognitive subgroups influenced by age of presentation. Poster presented at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference, July 30th to August 4th, 2022, San Diego, CA, USA.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy, K, Troyer, A, Levine, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Rochon, E (2019) Episodic memory impairments associated with deficits in coherence of narrative production. Poster presented at the 2019 Rotman Research Institute Conference.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Levine, B, Black, SE, Tang-Wai, D, Freedman, M, and Rochon, E (2018) Language and memory features of autobiographical narratives of svPPA patients. Poster presented at the 56th Annual Academy of Aphasia Meeting – October 21st-23rd, 2018. Montreal, Canada.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy, K, Troyer, A, Levine, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Rochon, E (2018) Discourse coherence analysis provides new insights into cognitive decline in aMCI. Poster pre-

sented at TRI Research Day, January 23rd, 2018. Toronto, Canada.

- Seixas-Lima B, Murphy K, Troyer A, Levine B, Graham N, Leonard C, Tang-Wai D, Black SE and Rochon, E (2017) Episodic versus semantic memory impairments and deficits in discourse production. Poster presented at the Academy of Aphasia 55th Annual Meeting. November 5th to 7th, 2017. Baltimore, MD, USA.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Raz Franco de Santana, B, Carthery-Goulart, M, Meltzer, J, Rochon, E, Mansur, L (2017) Severely impaired autobiographical memory and macro-linguistic aspects of language in fronto-temporal dementia: A case study. Poster presented at IV Brazilian Brain and Cognition, September 27 - 29, 2017. Sao Bernardo do Campo, Brazil.
- Jokel, R, Murphy, K, Seixas-Lima, B (2017) Language in amnesic mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease. Poster presented at The Alzheimer's Association International Conference, July 16th to 20th, 2017.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Murphy, K, Troyer, A, Levine, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Tang Wai, DF, Black, S, Rochon, E (2017) Episodic versus semantic memory impairments and deficits in discourse production. Poster presented at the 55th Academy of Aphasia Conference, November 5th-7th, 2017, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Levine, B, Black, SE, Tang Wai, DF, Freedman, M, Rochon, E (2016). The effect of semantic memory deficits on global coherence: An analysis of the discourse of patients with the semantic variant of primary progressive aphasia. Poster presented at the Academy of Aphasia Conference, October 16-18th, 2016, Llandudno, Wales, UK.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Black, SE, Tang Wai, DF, Freedman, M, Levine, B, Rochon, E (2016) The effect of semantic memory impairment on the speech of svPPA patients: A discourse-level analysis. Poster presented at the International Clinical Phonetics and Linguistics Association Conference (ICPLA), June 15-18, 2016, Halifax, Canada.
- Cupit, J, Leonard, C, Graham, NL, Seixas-Lima B, Tang-Wai D, Black S, Rochon E (2015) Investigating the possibility of a syntactic impairment in the semantic variant of PPA using a constrained production task: Preliminary findings. Conference Abstract: Academy of Aphasia 53rd Annual Meeting, October 18-20, 2015 Tucson, USA.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Black, S, Tang Wai, D., Freedman, M., Levine, B., Rochon, E. (2015) The loss of meaning in semantic dementia: language and memory patterns. Poster presented at Baycrest 25th Annual Rotman Research Institute Conference, March 9-11, 2015. Toronto, Canada.
- Seixas-Lima, B, Graham, NL, Leonard, C, Black, S, Tang Wai, D, Freedman, M, Levine, B, Rochon, E (2015) The loss of meaning in semantic dementia: Language and memory patterns. Poster presented at the Rehabilitation Sciences Institute Research Showcase, May 26, 2015. Toronto, Canada.
- Seixas-Lima, B (2008) Análise da Linguagem Não-Literal Ligada à Afasia. (Analysis of Non-literal Language Related to Aphasia), Poster presented at 56th GEL - Grupo de Estudos Linguísticos (Linguistic Studies Group). Sao Jose do Rio Preto, Brazil.
- Lopes, M, Mansur, L, Panseri, O, Oliveira, L, Seixas-Lima, B (2006) Deficiências semânticas ligadas à anomia produzida por TCE: um estudo de caso. (TBI-induced anomia and related semantic deficiencies: a case study). In: 54<sup>o</sup> Seminário do Grupo de Estudos Linguísticos do Estado de São Paulo, 2006, Araraquara, SP.

#### INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

**Collaborator at University of Lisbon**, Lisbon, Portugal. 2021-present

- Investigating neuropsychological decline in MCI with vascular and metabolic disorders

**Student Investigator at University of Sao Paulo**, Sao Paulo, Brazil. 2017-present

- Autobiographical memory and discourse production in individuals with MCI

#### JOURNAL REVIEWS

**Cortex** 2022  
**Language, Cognition and Neuroscience** 2021

OTHER EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE	<b>Assistant Coordinator at Centro Britanico English School</b> , Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil.	2006 – 2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and organization of curricular and extracurricular activities;</li> <li>• Preparation of didactic material;</li> <li>• Support for staff and clients;</li> <li>• Tutoring and grammar clinic;</li> <li>• Liaison between the principal, teachers, and parents.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Communications Assistant at Sanofi-Aventis</b> , Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil.	2001 – 2002
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of data reports;</li> <li>• Proofreading and copy editing;</li> <li>• Schedule management.</li> </ul>	
	<b>English and Math Tutor at Kumon</b> , Toronto, ON. Canada.	2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of supplemental English and Math activities for early learners;</li> </ul>	
	<b>English and Math Tutor JEI Summer Camp</b> , Toronto, ON. Canada.	2011
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation and delivery of English and Math classes to students from ages 4 to 12, as well as arts and developmental activities.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Centro Britanico English School</b> , Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil <i>English as a second language teacher</i>	2005 – 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English language lessons for children and adults;</li> <li>• Preparation of didactic material and tests.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Albert Sabin High School</b> , Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil <i>English as a second language teacher</i>	2003 – 2005
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English language lessons;</li> <li>• Preparation of didactic material and tests;</li> <li>• Private tutoring and grammar clinics;</li> <li>• Computer and audio lab monitor.</li> </ul>	
OTHER ACTIVITIES	<b>Lecture Series Coordinator at the Rotman Research Institute - Academic Rounds</b> , Toronto, ON. Canada.	2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of scientific talks and meetings;</li> <li>• Speaker selection;</li> <li>• Coordination of meeting itinerary;</li> <li>• Coordinating travel and reimbursement procedures.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Committee member at the Rotman Research Institute Open Science Committee</b> , Toronto, ON. Canada.	2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing strategic input in the direction activities;</li> </ul>	

- Coordination of training and education events.

**Steering Committee Member at the Rotman Research Institute Research Training Centre**, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2021-present

- Providing strategic input in the direction of training activities;
- Planning and executing strategic activities;
- Coordinating events;
- Acting as a resource, support and advocate for new and existing trainees.

**Participant in the Computational Neuroscience course at Neuromatch Academy**, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2021

- Participated in a full time 3-week course on the application of machine learning mechanisms for Neuroscience;
- The course content included lectures, group discussions, exercises and a final project.

**Participant in the 99 Artificial Intelligence Challenge**, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2019-2020

- Participated in a year-long challenge to explore the basics of artificial intelligence;
- Discussions over the definitions of AI and its related fields, philosophy, applications, functionality, and societal implications;
- Topics include but are not limited to: health and education, privacy, bias, robotics, cognitive science and psychology, art, information, and work.

**Communications Coordinator of the Trainee Society Canadian Consortium for Neurodegeneration and Aging (CCNA)**, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2019

- Organizer the event Get ON - Be in the know of CCNA current developments and foster future collaborations, March 16th, 2019. Toronto, Canada.
- Scheduling of activities and guest lectures;
- Liaison between organization committee, guests, and speakers;
- Organization of venue and catering;
- Budgeting
- Managing social media accounts and publicizing trainee projects;
- Creation of marketing posters and videos;
- Drafting communication material and reports.

**Co-founder, creative editor, copy editor at rehabInk magazine**, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2015 – 2018

rehabinkmag.com

- Developing of concept and magazine goals;
- Creation of designs for promotional materials and website;
- Decision making on submissions and copy editing;
- Photography.

**Organizer of year-round presentations “Research Colloquia” at the University of Toronto**, Toronto, ON. Canada. 2015 – 2018

- Scheduling of speakers;
- Liaison between speakers, faculty, and organization/IT;

**Volunteer Friendly Visitor at Kensington Gardens Long-Term Care Home**, Toronto, ON.

Canada.

2016

- Company keeping for residents.

**Organizer of the workshop “Linguistics, Neurolinguistics and the Investigation of Language Pathologies” at University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil.** 2010

- Scheduling of speakers;
- Liaison between speakers, faculty, and organization;

**Co-organizer and manager of the XII ENAPOL (Linguistics Graduate Student’s Meeting at University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil.** 2009

- Scheduling of speakers;
- Fund raising;
- Organization of venue and catering;

**Co-founder and manager of the Neurolinguistics Study Group at University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, SP. Brazil.** 2009

- Scheduling of speakers;
- Campaigning for funds;
- Organization of venue and catering;

#### AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 – Women in Cognitive Science Research Grant for Junior Scientists
- 2018 – UTFA Al Miller Memorial Award
- 2018 – NIDCD Academy of Aphasia Young Investigator travel award
- 2018 – CIHR Summer Program in Aging – Peer Review Award for best project development and presentation
- 2018 – CIHR Summer Program in Aging Travel Award
- 2017 – OSOTF Toronto Rehabilitation Institute student scholarship
- 2017 – Mitacs – Globalink research award for international research collaboration
- 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 – OSOTF Unilever award for students of Neuroscience
- 2016 – Mary Gertrude l’Anson – University of Toronto School of Graduate Studies University-Wide Awards competition
- 2014 – University of Toronto fellowship
- 2008-2010 – CNPq scholarship (Brazilian National Council of Scientific and Technological Development)